

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. An electronic key system for a vehicle
2 comprising:
3 an electronic key having first ID
4 (identification data), second ID, and third ID which
5 is shorter in data length than the second ID, said
6 electronic key outputting the first ID, the second
7 ID, and the third ID; and
8 an on-vehicle apparatus communicating with said
9 electronic key by means of wireless communication,
10 said on-vehicle apparatus having fourth ID, fifth ID,
11 and sixth ID which is shorter in data length than
12 the fifth ID, said on-vehicle apparatus permitting
13 starting an engine of the vehicle when one of first
14 and second conditions is achieved, the first
15 condition including a condition that the second ID
16 outputted from said electronic key corresponds with
17 the fifth ID, the second condition including a
18 condition that the first ID outputted from said
19 electronic key corresponds with the fourth ID and
20 the third ID outputted from said electronic key
21 corresponds with the sixth ID.
- 1 2. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein said on-vehicle apparatus permits unlocking
3 a vehicle door when the first ID corresponds with
4 the fourth ID.
- 1 3. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein said on-vehicle apparatus requests said
3 electronic key to output the first ID when an
4 operator carrying said electronic key executes an
5 operation for opening a vehicle door from an outside

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6 of the vehicle.

1 4. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 3,
2 wherein said electronic key outputs the first ID
3 only when said on-vehicle apparatus requests said
4 electronic key to output ID for opening the
5 vehicular door.

1 5. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein said on-vehicle apparatus requests said
3 electronic key to output the first ID when an
4 operator carrying said electronic key approaches the
5 vehicle to open the vehicular door.

1 6. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein said on-vehicle apparatus requests said
3 electronic key to output the second ID when an
4 operator carrying said electronic key executes an
5 operation for starting the engine.

1 7. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 6,
2 wherein said electronic key outputs the second ID
3 only when said on-vehicle apparatus requests said
4 electronic key to output ID for starting the engine.

1 8. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 2,
2 wherein said on-vehicle apparatus requests said
3 electronic key to output the third ID when the first
4 ID corresponds with the fourth ID and when an
5 operator carrying said electronic key executes an
6 operation for starting the engine.

1 9. The electronic key system as claimed in claim 8,

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1 13. A method for permitting starting an engine of a
2 vehicle, said method comprising:
3 checking whether first ID (identification data)
4 outputted from an electronic key corresponds with
5 first apparatus ID registered in an on-vehicle
6 apparatus;
7 permitting unlocking a vehicular door when the
8 first ID corresponds with the first apparatus ID;
9 requesting the electronic key to output second
10 ID when the first ID does not correspond with the

1 15. An electronic key system for a vehicle
2 comprising:
3 an electronic key having first ID
4 (identification data) and second ID, said electronic
5 key outputting the first ID, the second ID and a
6 part of the second ID according to a request; and
7 an on-vehicle apparatus communicating with said
8 electronic key by means of wireless communication,
9 said on-vehicle apparatus having third ID and fourth
10 ID, said on-vehicle apparatus requesting said
11 electronic key to output the part of the second ID

16. An electronic key system for a vehicle comprising:

- an electronic key having first ID (identification data), second ID, and third ID which is shorter in data length than the second ID, said electronic key outputting the first ID, the second ID and the third ID; and
- an on-vehicle apparatus communicated with said electronic key by means of wireless communication, said on-vehicle apparatus having fourth ID and fifth ID, said on-vehicle apparatus deciding to start an engine of the vehicle when the first ID outputted from said electronic key corresponds with the fourth ID and when the third ID outputted from said electronic key corresponds with a part of the fifth ID.